

What is Claimed Is:

1. The method of providing a simulated interactive conversation comprising the steps of:
 - 5 a. storing in a database searchable information in the form of text and/or oral recorded statements;
 - b. providing in the database stored images of selected individuals or animated characters.
 - 10 c. using questions provided through a user interface to search the database for an appropriate response and providing the response to the user.
- 15 2. The method as defined in Claim 1 wherein the step of providing the response comprises providing the response orally with lip sincing of said image.
- 20 3. A software program for carrying out the methods of Claims 1 and 2.

0077041-061101